



BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Howard Robins, Project Management Consultant

Dr. Robins began his professional career at the NASA Langley Research Center while enrolled as an undergraduate co-operative engineering student at Virginia Tech. Following graduation in 1958, he worked at Langley on the Scout Project and later at the Johnson Space Center on the Apollo and Skylab Projects. Dr. Robins returned to Langley in 1967 where he served in a number of management positions on the Viking Project.

In 1976, Dr. Robins transferred to the NASA Headquarters Office of Aeronautics and Space Technology where he managed the Orbiter Experiments Program and the Long-Duration Exposure Facility Program. In 1980, he was appointed Chief of the Mission Operations and Information Systems Branch of the Planetary Division of the Office of Space Science and Applications. Selected for the President's Executive Exchange Program in 1983, Dr. Robins completed a one-year industrial assignment as Acting Director of Research and Development at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company.

Dr. Robins returned to NASA Headquarters in 1984 where he subsequently served as Deputy and then Associate Administrator for Management, responsible for functional management of the NASA institution. He was appointed Deputy Associate Administrator for Space Systems Development in 1991, where he was responsible for assisting in executive leadership of major system development efforts, including the International Space Station.



NASA Project Management Conference



BIOGRAPHY

Following his career at NASA, Dr. Robins served as Executive in Residence at Virginia Tech from 1994 through 1998. In this capacity, he led a number of new program development initiatives, assisted in teaching graduate classes in management, participated in various activities to expand and promote the mission of the University with the federal government and private sectors, and acted as a consultant to the federal government in program and project management. Dr. Robins is currently a management consultant to government and private sector organizations including NASA where he is participating in various efforts to improve program and project management. He is also a member of a group of senior executives supporting the faculty and students at the College of William and Mary business school.

Dr. Robins academic degrees include a B.S. degree from Virginia Tech in Aeronautical Engineering, the PhD degree in Physics from Virginia Tech, and the M.S.A. in Management Engineering from George Washington University. He also attended the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard University Graduate School of Business. Dr. Robins is a member of Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Gamma Tau, Kappa Theta Epsilon, Sigma Pi Sigma, and Sigma Xi. He has received numerous awards including the Exceptional Service Medal for his work on the Viking Project, the Outstanding Leadership Medal for leading the effort to restore the NASA institution following the *Challenger* accident, and the Exceptional Achievement Medal for leading the effort to completely revise the Agency's management system for major system development programs and projects. He has also received the Presidential Rank of Meritorious Executive.



NASA Project Management Conference